

VOL. 4, NO. 3

**50 CENTS** 

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2000** 



Groundbreaking ceremonies for the South Plainfield Senior Residence were attended by many dignitaries. Pictured are Councilwoman Darlene Pinto, Freeholder John Pulomena, Councilman Vinne Buttiglieri, Freeholders Jane Brady, Chris Rafano and Bill Crabiel, Councilman Ed Kubala, Rev. Roger Arnholt, Mayor Dan Gallagher and Councilman Ray Petronko.

# **Senior Housing Becomes a Reality**

Many said it would never happen. When asked about senior housing, word was it was just talk, no action.

On Tuesday there was finally action in the way of a dedication ceremony for the new Senior Citizen Residence on Morris Ave. Lutheran Social Ministries have dotted the i's and crossed the t's and in 12 to 14 months, South Plainfield will have their long awaited and sorely needed senior housing.

The senior residence will have 100 one- and two-bedroom affordable apartments. Rent for a one bedroom apartment ranges from \$525-\$545 per month and \$595 per month for two bedrooms, excluding utilities. Utilities are estimated at \$65/mo. for one bedroom and \$85/mo. for two bedrooms.

The five-story residence will have a computer center with high-speed access to the Internet, a fully equipped exercise suite, activity rooms on every floor, laundry facilities on the first, third and fifth floors, a spacious community room with a kitchen on the programs.

This long anticipated ground breaking ceremony was attended by four Middlesex Freeholders, Dave Crabiel, John Pulomena, Chris Rufano and Jane Brady. Also attending were Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilpeople Ed Kubala, Ray Petronko, Vinnie Buttiglieri and Darlene Pinto. Gerald Sims, director of housing development at Lutheran Social Ministries, introduced the guests. Rev. Roger Arnholt gave the invocation and Pastor Richard Kiesling from St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield read the benediction. Also on hand were many representatives from Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey (the builders), representatives from the many funding sources and, of course, scores of happy seniors.

Councilman Kubala explained that there were many loopholes, problems and issues which all needed to be resolved during the past years. "This is really happy a day for me, but a much happier one for the seniors," he said.

# Mosquito Spraying Planned For Areas of South Plainfield

Over the last week more than five dead crows infected by mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus have been found in two areas of South Plainfield.

As a precaution, the Middlesex County Mosquito Control Commission and the Middlesex County Health Department have recommended ground spraying in these areas of the borough. Spraying will take place on Thursday, Sept. 14 between the hours of 7 and 11 p.m., weather permitting. The reason for spraying in the evening is because that is when mosquitoes are most active.

Residents are being asked to remain indoors during the spraying. Spraying may not take place in some areas if residents are spotted out of doors. Borough residents should have received a letter and map in the mail alerting them of the spraying.

The West Nile Virus Surveillance System indicated that no mosquito pools submitted from South Plainfield to date have tested positive for the virus, along with the sentinel chickens, and no human cases of the West Nile virus have been identified in Middlesex County.

The spray being used is the pesticide Scourge 4+12. This spray is dangerous to birds and can affect people with respiratory conditions. Make



sure you keep your pets indoors and close all windows and doors during spraying. It is also a good idea to wash down all outdoor toys afterward.

The active ingredient in Scourge is resmethrin, a synthetic form of an insecticide derived from the chrysanthemum flower. Scourge is a pyrethroidpesticide use to control adult mosquitos. While adverse health effects resulting from exposure to this professionally applied product are very unlikely, some sensitive individuals, including persons with chronic lung disease (especially asthma), and those with sensitivities or allergies to *Continued on page 12* 

# **Girl Scouts Receive Domestic Violence Badges**

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, South Plainfield Police Chief Steven A. Merkler awarded Domestic Violence Girl Scout Badges to scouts in grades seven through twelve. This was a groundbreaking event, for both the police department and the girl scouts, because it is the first such badge presented in New Jersey and might be

first floor, gas heat and air conditioning and access to local senior citizens

## **Overturned** Truck Causes Traffic Delays

On 7:30 a.m. Tuesday morning, the rear portion of a tandem tractortrailer owned by Con-Way Transportation partially overturned onto the guardrail on Hamilton Blvd. and Durham Ave.

The contents of the trailer included a five-gallon container of nitric acid and an empty cylinder of vanadium oxytricholoride, as well as other nonhazardous materials.

The immediate vicinity was closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Traffic was diverted around the scene, causing substantial traffic delays on *Continued on page 12*  the first Domestic Violence Badge ever awarded in scouting.

In an effort to provide both intervention and prevention services to the youth in our community, the Crisis Intervention Team developed a three level, age appropriate Domestic Violence Girl Scout Workshop. The South Plainfield Girl Scout Community embraced this idea and obtained. approval from the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council. The Domestic Violence Badge was designed by the South Plainfield Scouts at their first workshop. As a result of this cooperative effort, the program and badge may be accepted by the Girl Scouts of America at the national level.

The Riley School ceremonies were attended by Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilwoman Darlene Pinto and Councilmen Dennis Cerami, Ed Kubala and Vinnie Buttiglieri. Also attending were South Plainfield Police Capt. Robert Merkler, Gail Dougherty, Coordinator for the Po-



lice Department's Domestic Violence Outreach Program and several members her team.

Chief Merkler said that domestic violence is not pleasant topic, but it is important to discuss it. He noted that in 1999, 80,681 cases of domestic violence were reported to the police and one can only guess how many were not reported. He explained that this program is not intervention, but prevention. Marcia Seal, administrator for the NJ Coalition for Battered Women presented each girl with a specially designed t-shirt.

Forty girls were awarded badges, but not all were able to attend. Pictured above are those who were at the ceremonies. Badges were awarded to:

Troop 109-Tarryn Carlton, Lori Cushner, Brittany DeNitzio, Catherine Flannery and Sarah Green; Troop 117, Nancy Coffey, Jennifer Vasquez and Victoria Maione; Troop 167-Elaine Alexander, Kelly Butrico, Kristie Butrico, Margaret Lay, Ariello Furmosa and Laura Papp; Troop 259Danielle Schweers, Cheryl Yates, Michelle Paterek, Stefanie Zarra, Kelly Koury and Allison Kravetsky; *Troop* 351-Kerry Mackey, Shari Sangster and Kaitlin Bundy; *Troop* 699-Jennifer Piwowar and Becky Bianchi; *Troop* 792, Alisha Stasenko, Jayne Merlo, Debbie Outerial, Kim Gaub, Melanie Foscolo and Kristen Gumkina. *Troop* 819-Amanda George, Keely Harty, Jody Chepulis, Andrea Doll, Christina DeMatos, Kristen Gumina and Jaclyn Noonan; *Troop* 843-Melissa Anderson and Rebecca Horn.

## mark your calendars

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda

## council

#### Meets twice a month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-754-9000

AGENDA MEETING		PUBLIC N	<b>IEETING</b>	
Monday, September :	25	Thursday,	September 28	
Tuesday, October 10		Thursday,	October 12	
Monday, October 23.		Thursday,	October 26	

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

#### planning

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

September 26, October 10 (No Meeting),

October 24, November 14, November 28, December 12, December 26

#### zoningia cardo (adjusiment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

September 19, October 3, October 17, October 31,

November 8 (Thursday,) November 21, December 5, December 19

#### taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall at 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m.

## siteplace sub-committee

#### The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

September 28, October 26, November (No Meeting), December (No Meeting)

## recycling

Meets Thursday, once a month Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280

September 28, October 26,

November (to be announced), December 28

## recreation

Meets once a month

PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716 Mon. October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

#### **environmental**commission

Meets once a month

Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280 October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

#### board of education meetings

Board Conference Room at Administration Building, on Cromwell Place Regular Board Mtg. 8 p.m., Sept. 19, 8 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Oct. 10, 7 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg. 8 p.m., Oct. 17, 8 p.m.



# In My Opinion Letters

#### To The Editor,

The South Plainfield Labor Day Parade is a time for getting our community together. This year was truly a great success for our Cub Scouts due to the combined efforts of all our Packs within our community working together as a team. It was nice to see people within our community come together and help one another in such a wonderful project.

I would like to thank everyone who helped decorate the Cub Scouts Float. The boy's participation making their individual cars made the float a standout. Thank you boys.

A very special thanks to Hall's Trucking, Stefano Fencing, Vail's Hardware, CQI Carpets, Marino's Warehouse and Ron Sward-Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield for all your donations.

Also, specials thanks to Pack 205 (Dave Stugoski, Al Miranda, Bob Pasternak - the track was totally awesome), Pack 324 (Brian Wilchek), Pack 224 (Bill Seesselberg, Patti Ratti), Pack 207 (Kathie Slattery, Dave Alpunio) and Pack 202 (Kim Montuori, Karen Piersanti).

For all those not mentioned here you know who you are, thank you. We all worked together for our community and it was truly a great success.

## **TRACEY PAL IZZI**

## **COMMITTEE CHAIR/PACK 224**

Dear Editor,

Money. Power. What do you do when you have a lot of one but not the other? Well, if you are Jon Corzine, you run for US Senate.

Corzine shocked New Jersey and the whole nation by spending \$35 million to buy the Democratic nomination for US Senate. I wonder, what and who else he is buying?

Why would a multimillionaire with no public service experience spend nearly one-tenth of his fortune in the Democratic primary for a Senate seat that only pays \$141,300 per year? It seems to me that Mr. Corzine's real interest in the Senate is because of special interest benefits.

If Mr. Corzine says he has neither special interests, nor dirty money, then he should release his tax returns. It's time for Mr. Corzine to be honest with the people of New Jersey. We deserve to know where Mr. Corzine gets his money, and why he won't release his tax returns. Perhaps once he has released his tax returns, we will find out that he has money invested in the governments of the 23 foreign countries, in which he holds millions of dollars in Goldman-Sachs stock.

Mr. Corzine, if you want to stop the speculation about your money, simply release your tax returns! It's that easy! My dear friend, what are you trying to hide? SINCERELY, Now Mike Ferguson wants to be our Congressman. You see after failing in his last congressional bid, he conveniently decided to move into our district, where coincidentally there was an open seat.

On November 7, I will be voting for a candidate I know will be fighting for the interests of working people like myself. I'll be voting for Maryanne Connelly.

If the voters decide to send Ms. Connelly to Washington I can't help but wonder where Mr. Ferguson will move to next? My guess would be wherever he thinks his election chances are best.

## DANIEL M. SMITH SOUTH PLAINFIELD

## To whom it may concern,

And this means you and you know who you are. Do you have that much time on your hands to worry about my basketball pole on our dead end street, where all the kids on our block play everyday. You should be ashamed of yourself to try to stop something that is good for the kids to do instead of doing something mischievous.

I moved to South Plainfield ten years ago from Elizabeth where you lived on busy streets, where you couldn't have things like this. Just like every other parent, I wanted my children to have things that I couldn't have. So when I moved to South Plainfield, I put in a pool and a basketball pole on the end of our dead end street. Now that my children are older and do not use it as much as when they were younger, I have decided to leave it up because of the many new neighbors moving in with small children. They all like to play basketball there and now because of your complaint, after ten years, I have to take it down.

I hope you're proud of yourself and thank you for taking the fun out of these kids' lives, in a world that is full of hate and disappointment.

## A DISAPPOINTED NEIGHBOR, THOMAS DESTEFANO JR.

To the Editor,

I think the Board of Education should put a cap on how much money they ask for in their new proposal.

This is what the taxpayers can accomplish with 10 million dollars and are the architect's numbers:

1. 800 square feet per classroom, \$135 cost per square foot, 20 students per classroom.

2. 30 classrooms at \$135 per = \$3,240,000.

30 classrooms = 600 students(30x20).

fect the value of your home? And, if nothing is done, will the town's real estate be affected? Isn't that the same question?

Well first of all, does the board think people are going to be moving to South Plainfield for its educational system?

South Plainfield ranks next to last in the county! If I had children and was moving to a new area, I would check out the school systems record.

First of all, who changed the name of Cedarcroft School to Grant School? The original Grant School, located on what is now Keystone School on Hamilton Blvd., was better than Roosevelt School, with a stage, etc. We didn't need it anymore because no one thought the town was going to expand.

So, now we have Keystone using Grant School, which has everyone drooling about why it was sold?

The Board of Ed, before election number 2, downsized classes to cause over crowding—lower than the State of New Jersey's standards! They made people think we have students lined up in the halls.

Then they made this big move of turning the administrative building back into classrooms, which caused a loss of administrative space. How much administrative space do we need?

Now we have this mad rush of students coming to South Plainfield and now for a year the Board has come up with every angle to get voters to believe them, which again is going to cause an unneccesary tax hike. The Board finally asked the state for aid and they only got five million dollars. The original plan was to use Roosevelt School for an administrative building, but it was not up to code to be used as a school. That was the issue in election #1.

The Board likes to add the burden of more taxes to taxpayers, especially people who have no children, elderly people or people who send their children to private schools. Now we get *Continued on page 10* 



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## SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The *South Plainfield Observer* is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

- 1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
- 2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department

South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on our web page at spobserver.com or ggnan@aol.com or ngrennie@ix. netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number. JAKE CATALDO

### To the Editor,

Two years ago Mike Ferguson ran for Congress in the 6th Congressional District against Frank Pallone. From out of the blue an issue advocacy group funded by large insurance companies, with four million dollars to spend, starting running television and radio ads aiming to discredit Rep. Pallone. It seems Congressman Pallone had been instrumental in crafting legislation attempting to establish a "patient's bill of rights," and some folks didn't like it.

The voters apparently saw through the smoke screen and returned Mr. Pallone to Washington.

Put the new classrooms where ever you need them.

3. \$3,000,000 to upgrade electrical systems.

4. \$3,760,000 miscellaneous (boiler, track, etc.)

5. The state picks up 40 percent=\$6,000,000 total cost to taxpayers of South Plainfield.

PAT CRILLEY FORMER BOARD MEMBER

## Dear Editor,

A few weeks ago I received this funny survey put out by the Board of Education—defining renovation or new construction.

After two failed attempts to build a new Roosevelt School, we are now redefining the words, but we're all getting smarter.

The questions were also on the funny side, especially the ones that ask: Does the state of our schools af-

## Thank You to Volunteers

Mayor Dan Gallagher, Borough Council and Borough Administrator Frank Derosa would like to personally thank the volunteers who, at the last minute, came to the rescue to help stuff envelopes which were mailed to residents alerting them about the decision by the Middlesex County Health Department to spray for mosquitoes in South Plainfield.

Senior citizens volunteers were Fran Strabeck, Loretta Conroy, Margaret Mondoro, Tony Mondoro, Peg Keseday, George Keseday and Bill O'Rouke.

Borough employees who helped out were Marge Ackerman, Gary Toth, Gaby Hollain, Lorraine Petroziello, Marie Smith, John Allen, Jean Sherwood, Diane Janus, Janice Muccilli, Cynthia Ockay, Harriet Wagner, Richard Naberezny, Carmen Monticchio, Scott Thomas, Karen Costantino, Lisa Spahn, Maria Perry, Stacey Zereconski, Peggy Devlin, Peter Rachwal and Michael English.



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# southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Jim Connaughton (above left) of Randolph Ave. receives a certificate for two tickets for a brunch cruise aboard the Cornucopia Princess from SP Historical Society President William Tuthill. The cruise was the second place prize in the Historical Society's Labor Day raffle. Pictured above right are South Plainfield resident Karen Flanagan and her son, Ryan, admiring the queen-sized quilt won as the first prize in the Historical Society's Labor Day raffle.

## Historical Society Invites You to Join Them

## **By William Tuthill**

The South Plainfield Historical Society would like to say a big "Thank You" to all those who helped make this year's raffle a success.

We would also like extend an invitation to everyone to help keep that this area was settled in the

alive the history of our town and the surrounding area. The Historical Society meets the second Tuesday of the month in the high school library at 7:30 p.m.

To those who may be new to the area, we would like you to know 1600's. There were quite a lot of Revolutionary War battles, which do not seem to get much recognition. One example is the "Battle of Short Hills," which was fought right in our own back yard. Look it up, it makes good reading.

**Milling/Paving** 

Notice Belmont Ave.

On or about Sept. 18, the Mid-

dlesex County Road Dept. will be

milling and paving Belmont Ave.

between Hamilton Blvd. and

Kosciusko Ave. beginning at 9:15

a.m. Traffic will be manually di-

rected but will only be open one

Motorists should avoid this are

during this time period and find

an alternate route for that day.

direction at a time.

## **Committees Working on Board Of Education Proposals**

The volunteer committees formed to assist the Board of Education in planning for future school expansion, technology and building, are meeting each week. Some of the groups lively discussions include what grades will be in what schools, what curriculum and technology are needed and ways to get the word out to the residents.

The Public Relations Committee was at the Laboar Day Parade and shared the booth with the Observer, handing out surveys and literature, and answering questions. They have begun tabulating the replies from residents and will report the results to the building, curriculum and technology committees. They are also preparing a newsletter which will be mailed to residents to inform them on the committees' progress.

The Architecture Committee has been going over the figures of the number of children in each school and in each grade. Expanding or building a new school depends on what grades will remain in the four grade schools. Presently, we have a centralized sixth grade and a middle school. The committee is discussing schools housing K to 4 or K to 6. This committee has had numerous discussions on what grades should be in what schools.

The Curriculum Committee has

already suggested that K-8 have some form of an art, music and computer room. Students in 6-8 need a dedicated science room/lab and those in 3-5 need a lab area, but not necessarily a dedicated one. The committee has passed on these suggestions to the architetecture committee.

The Technology Committee is preparing the minimum requirements each class in the district should have to incorporate the newest technology for the students.

## Ferguson–Speaker at Republican Club

Mike Ferguson, Republican candidate for the 7th Congressional District, will be the gust speaker at the monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 21 at the American

Legion Post #243 on Oak Tree Road. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. All interested residents in the 7th Congressional District are invited to attend. For info, call Linda Dashuta, municipal chairwoman at (908) 756-6519.



On Saturday, September 16 you are invited to meet Mr. Ray, our floral designer, who will be available from I I a.m. until 4 p.m. to create that arrangement or wreath just for you. Bring your own container or choose one of ours. Designing will be free when you



## Happy Anniversary To the Gallagher's

Miriam and Dan Gallagher will be celebrating their 37th wedding anniversary on Sept. 21. In the photos above they haven't changed a bit since their wedding day. Many happy returns from the Observer!

## **Middlesex County Freeholders Sponsor Electronics Drop Off**

Have you been wondering how to get rid of your old electronics equipment? Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders is sponsoring a no-fee Consumer Electronics Drop-Off Day on Sunday, Sept. 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Middlesex County College, Woodbridge Ave. and Mill Road in Edison.

Some of the items accepted include monitors, CRTs, TVs, CPUs, keyboards, terminals, modems, printers, copiers, keyboards, fax machines, cables, telephones, typewriters, telephone mainframes, mainframe equipment, VCRs, mainframe controller, stereo equipment and radios.

The drop off is open to Middlesex County residents, schools, municipalities, government agencies and small businesses.

To schedule a large volume pick up call Newtech Recycling Inc. direct at (732) 469-9774. For further information, call Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at (732) 745-4170.

PFRS-2400 Great for the disabled, 24-hour elderly or injured **Personal emergency** Victims of domestic violence <> reporting system can obtain help with the press of a button Security

> Press the button and a trained operator will speak to you through the console and summon medical aid.



our Children's Boutique for Christening thru pre-teen and our Bridal Niche for a showcase of memorable gifts. 335 Main St. Metuchen 08840 732-548-5442



## **AARP Events Include** Meetings, Dinner Theatre

The AARP Chapter 4144 will meet the third Friday of the month at the PAL on Maple Ave. The needlecrafters of Chapter 4144 AARP will meet every Wednesday at 1 p.m., starting Sept. 13, also at the PAL.

The program for the Oct. 20 meeting will be a slide show and talk about a trip to Wales by Dorothy and Henry Meriwether of South Plainfield. Featured will be Conway and Caernarfon castles, Bodnant Gardens, Tenby and Pembrokeshire Coastal Path. New members and guests are welcome.

The first general meeting will be an orientation held on Friday, Sept. 15, at 12:30 p.m. at the PAL Build-

ing. You don't have to be a member to take the Oct. 19 trip to The Evergreen Dinner Theater to see the classic revival of "I Remember, Mama."

The cost of \$55. includes the meal, the show and transportation from South Plainfield. Call (732) 968-6613 or 752-3764 for reservations. Checks to AARP #4144 are due on signup.

## Concert by Fr. Alphonse Stephenson Planned

## September 17

Sacred Heart Rosary Society tickets are on sale for Father Alphonse Stephenson and his 45-member symphony orchestra, St. Peter by the Sea. The performance will be at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 4 p.m. The concert will consist of light classics and seasonal favorites.

St. Peter by the Sea consists of 45 members who have 750 years of study and performed over 57,000 concerts and recitals.

General admission is \$25; students and seniors are \$20. Members of the Sacred Heart Rosary Society are selling tickets after all Sunday masses. Ticket information can be obtained by calling either (908) 756-0632, ext. 10, (908) 755-6416, or (732) 549-9633.

## Cruise Planned on the Cornucopia Princess! September 17

South Plainfield Historical Society will sponsor the Second Annual Brunch Cruise on the Cornucopia Princess on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 12 noon out of the Perth Amboy Smith Street Dock. Boarding begins at 11 a.m. and cruise returns at 2:30 p.m.

A buffet-lunch will be served with selection of food, such as broiled

salmon, a carving station with roast beef and chicken, cooked to order--omelets, shrimp, a variety of salads, fruits, pastries, coffee, tea and cash bar.

For tickets, which must be purchased by Saturday, Sept. 16, or info, call Bill Tuthill at 756-9654; Arlene Anthony at 753-7852 or Dot Rotola at 753-2519. The cost is \$49; tax and gratuities are in-cluded. Mail check or money order to the South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

## **Cultural Arts Plans** Sopranos Concert September 17

On Sunday, Sept. 17, the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission will present two of America's finest Sopranos in a concert entitled "A September for Sopranos".

The concert, which features Ms. Florence Lazzeri and Ms. Lias Daltirus will be held at 3:30 p.m. sharp, in the Fellowship Hall at Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Come out and enjoy a couple of hours of wonderful music, a little opera, some Broadway show tunes and many popular songs.

For more information call 561-9557 or 754-8451.

## **Future Stars Parents Tea** September 21

A "Welcome Tea" will be held on Thursday, Sept. 21, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of Grant School. Your involvement is needed. New ideas are welcome.

## **Rescue Squad Ladies** Auxiliary Fashion Show **October 22**

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Fashion Show/ Brunch on Sunday, Oct. 22, at the Italian American Club, Somerset St.,

North Plainfield, at 12 noon. Fashions will be presented by Dress Barn and Fashion Bug, and the Answer Store in Menlo Park. Come out and join your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of food, fun and fashions. Raffles include our traditional holiday baskets, a weekend at the Doubletree Suites, luggage and more exciting prizes. Tickets are \$25, and can be pur-

chased from any auxiliary member or by calling Joan at (908) 754-8275. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

## SPHS Class of 1980 **Reunion Slated for Nov.** November 25

South Plainfield High School Class of 1980 will holds a 20 year reunion on Sat., Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. at The Martinsville Inn in Martinsville. We are presently trying to locate the following classmates: Susan Ashford, Laura Carron,

Aaron Calland, Dawn Calland, Gary Cox, Steven Davis, Melissa DiBattista, Susan DiDonato, Thomas Donovan, Debbie Egan, Gary Galloway, Gary Gorski, Scott Gregersen, Margaret Keane, Rexford Kinney, James Hughes, Karen Kraft, Kathy Kraft, Donna Krawczyk, Kevin Leather, James Lubach, Joseph Machos, Dale Mahowski, Carrie Makowski, James Massa, Sharon Nargi, Peter Neuhaus, Michael Noonan, Kenneth Northup, Robin Northup, Christian Olson, John McAteer, Jill McDonough, James McHugh, Brian McMillan, Charles Meriwether, Elizabeth Merkle, Donald Miller, Joseph Moleski, Joseph Scotti, Kathleen Sheedy, William Simmons, Jean Stadnik, Paul Strand, Cynthia Surniak, Tammy Tharp, Tim Thiel, Rene Thomas, Kevin Woodring, Robert Witting, William Williams, Kathleen Weingart, Debra Jo Timpson, Diane Vandriel, Louis Ventura, Liese Viola, and Stephen Vitale.

Invitations will be sent out in late Sept. Contact Jim Insel at (908) 713-0193 or Susan Graves Metz at susanmetz@worldnet.att.net.

## Multi-Class Reunion Planned

An invitation has been extended to all SPHS graduates from Sandi Spisso Connelly and Bobby Cobb, SPHS Class of 1969.

The 1969 alumni are planning a special "Golden 50th Birthday" Class Reunion for May of 2001, to be held as an all day outdoor event at Forest Lodge in Warren. Many people from a diverse range of graduating classes find the idea of a multiclass reunion appealing. It offers an excellent way to renew old friendships. Some classes lack either reunion coordinators, sufficient number of alumni or both.

In view of this interest, we, of the Class of 1969, have opened the invitation for the event to all SPHS alumni. The 60's Boardwalk theme will not only celebrate the class of 1969, but all those who once walked the halls of South Plainfield High School.

Please pass the word to any and all alumni you have contact with. If they have an interest, please contact either Sandy Spisso Connelly or Bobby Cobb at the following email addresses: spdcon@aol.com or racobb@epix.net

## **Events** In Surrounding Towns

## Woodbridge WOWS to Hold Dance/Social

September 17

The Woodbridge Widows & Widowers (WOWS), a non-sectarian group sponsored by the Family Life Services of the Diocese of Metuchen, will hold a dance on Sept. 17 at the Woodbridge Elks, 665 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge, 7:30 to 11:30. There will be live music and refreshments.

Members are \$7, guests are \$8. For more information, call (732) 826-4714 or (908) 757-0515.

The group sponsors a dance the third Sunday of each month.

## Mind, Body, Spirit, Holistic Expo

September 17

Fall Equinox, Mind, Body, Spirit, Holistic Expo is set for Sunday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at Middlesex County College in Edison. Open to the general public, the Expo offers 150 exhibits covering a comprehensive array of holistic products and services including practitioners, healers, vendors, bodyworkers and psychics. Mind, Body, Spirit, Holistic Expo reaches those interested in learning and experiencing an enhanced quality of life by raising the consciousness of holistic liv-

ing. The Expo will also have a free lecture series, diverse workshops and will feature nationally known speakers.

Over 150 juried exhibits will be on hand to discuss and sell products and services.

For directions, call (732) 548-6000 or (732) 906-2500. For information, call (732) 748-0298. Admission fees are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students with photo ID.

## Alliance Bible Church to Sponsor 5K Run September 23

Registration is now being accepted for the Alliance Bible Church "Run To The Son" 5K and one mile fun run to be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. The run is the kick off event for Fall Frolic Weekend, a weekend of free family entertainment sponsored by the church located on Mt. Horeb Rd. in Warren.

Both races are slated to begin at 9 a.m. and will be held rain or shine.

Advanced race registration is \$10 and must be postmarked before Sept. 10. Race day registration will be \$15 and will begin at 7 a.m. Participating runners will receive a long

#### parking is free.

Pony rides, a petting zoo, face painting, game and prizes are scheduled for the kids.

To obtain race registration forms, additional information or directions, please contact the church office at (732)469-1425.

## St. Joseph's High School Holding Service Auction October 7

St. Joseph's High School in Me-tuchen will be holding a 'Service Auction' on Monday, Oct. 7 starting at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for light dinner, beer and wine and bid on services like gourmet dinners, plumbing services, concert tickets and much more.

The cost is \$10. For further information, contact Al Federici at 908-276-1903.

## **Reunion Planned for** Crew of Seven Ships October 19-22

A reunion is being planned in Newport News, Virginia, for Oct. 19-22, for the former crew members of the seven ships of the DeSoto/Suf-folk County Class LSTs. The ships are the USS DeSoto County, LST-1171, USS Suffolk County, LST-1173, USS Grant County, LST-1174, USS York County, LST-1175, USS Graham County, LST-1176, USS Lorain County, LST-1177, and the USS Wood County, LST-1178.

An effort is underway to acquire the USS Lorain County as a memorial by the Ohio War Memorial, Inc. of Lorain, Ohio. For further information contact: Charles C. Patton, Ohio War Memorial, Inc., P.O. Box 307, Lorain, Ohio 44052. (440) 284-2621or OWMI\_@excite.com

## Tourette Support Group Sets Meeting Dates

November 14

The Tourette Syndrome Association-Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group Meetings will be held at JFK Medical Center's Neuroscience Institute in Edison, from 7-9 p.m., on Nov. 14.

The scheduled speaker will be Adam Bloom, a psychologist who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of tourette syndrome and related disorders.

For more information, contact Debbie after 6 p.m. at (732) 283-1439 or www.tsanj.com



## How You Can Be a Part of the South Plainfield Observer

ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS. We want to add them to AROUND TOWN. It can make your event more successful. Send them to us by mail, fax or e-mail.

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SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us via mail. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well.

HOW TO CONTACT US. By mail: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: ggnan@aol.

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sleeved race T-shirt and chance to win a 25" Sharp color TV.

The first annual Fall Frolic will be held on Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the church will include live musical performances, stage presentations by clowns, magicians and line dancers will perform. Admission and

Mail or drop off stories and photos to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax (908)668-8819; email ggnan@aoi.com.

## ADVERTISEMENT Which of These Costly Homeseller Mistakes Will You Make When You Sell Your Home?

South Plfd–A news report has just been released which reveals 7 mistakes that most homeowners make when sell-ing their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell hour home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that a full three-quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these

mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report en-Sold Fast and For Top Dollar". To hear a brief recorded message about

how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-888-305-3085 and enter ID#1000. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.

## From the South Plainfield Library Ronamar

## **By Kenneth Morgan**

Time for the latest from the South Plainfield Library:

As previously noted, our children's Storytime programs have been cancelled for September. However, there is a children's program scheduled for this month. A sing-along program featuring Mr. Tim (as opposed to Mr. Kurt), will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at 6:30 p.m. No registration is needed for this program.

We now have two displays in place for September. Our display cabinet has a special exhibit connected to the observance of Banned Books Week, which starts on Sept. 24. The display was put together by Children's Librarian Linda Hansen. Meanwhile, our display wall features artwork and photos from the Highland Ave. Wood's Education Reserve. The artwork was created by students of local resident Dorothy Miele and has been provided by the Friends of the Woods. Both displays can be seen throughout the month.

Just when you thought we'd finished rearranging things in our collection, we've gone and made another couple of changes. First, the adult biographies, previously found upstairs, are now on the ground floor just past the books in the 900 section. Meanwhile, English as a Second Language (ESL) and Adult Basic Reading (ABR) books, previously found under the windowsill next to the periodicals, are now at the top of the stairs on the elevator side. Since we still haven't gotten in-

ternal maps printed up, we're happy to assist you in finding what you're looking for.

We've got a couple of advisories for you this week. First of all, as we've noted in previous columns, students will soon be concerned with term papers, reports and extended homework assignments. This means research and our Internet terminals are highly effective research tools. Parents should be aware, though, that their children won't be allowed to use them unless they've been given permission. Parents need to come to the library first and sign an Internet permission form. Once that is done, their children are free to log onto the terminals whenever they wish. If you'd rather your children didn't have such wide access, they can ask the Reference Librarian to assist them or you can gain access using your own library card.

Our second advisory is still focused on children, though not necessarily students. We understand that kids can be high spirited and rambunctious. And we do our best to make the library a fun place for them to be. But, please understand, we're a library, not a playground. There are others in the building that are trying to study or work, and having your kids running around noisily doesn't help matters. Please try to keep your children in line and showing good behavior. The library staff has other responsibilities and we don't have supplies of tranquilizers on hand. We appreciate your help in this matter.

That'll be all for now. We'll be back next week with more.



South Plainfield Fire House/Police Station (1944) located on Hamilton Blvd., next to South Plainfield Liquors. The courtroom is upstairs.



## **By Patricia Abbott**

The following information has been provided by the Class of 1969 multi-class Reunion Committee and SPHS alumni.

The Internet, with its speed and vast array of resources, has created an entirely new means of gathering information. Search engines simplify the task of locating information and often the information people seek is other people. Old friends are located by the thousands every day. The

words "communication" and "Internet" have become synonymous. Sites such as Classmates. com are popping up with increasing speed. While they all dangle tempting offers to lighten your wallet, the most basic services are there for the taking, free of charge.

Classmates.com's South Plain-' field message board is a perfect example. The message board boasts thousands of messages from SPHS alumni all across the country. It is far more than corresponding with a former classmate or two. The boards display an in-depth interaction of generations. It crosses the lines of age, race and religion as people who grew up in South Plainfield share their memories. The Internet and the visitors to the SP message boards have once again provided the Observer with a trip down memory lane.

After reading about the 1968 "guess the couple" photo of Sherrill and Allen LaMonda, a number of people became inspired and offered their own memories and photos to the message boards, the SPHS Photosite, as well as to the Observer. Most of the responses were personal experiences and

else can recall others. Another memory is of an old Italian man who sold vegetables. He traveled the streets of South Plainfield with a horse and cart. Jim said, "I remember his voice clearly to this day. He would yell out, "Tama-tas" for "tomatoes" and he would chime in with other veggies he had on the wagon. I remember hearing the "clop, clop, clop" of the horse on the asphalt road and the scale swinging off the back of the cart as he rode along. He woke me up many a morning during summer vacation with his loud call! I chased his cart a few times to get some things for my mother. I can't remember his name, but he had the biggest farm in South Plainfield." Jim and other SPHS alumni spent several days on the message boards reliving this memory. The missing piece was, "Who was the vegetable man?"

The answer was finally provided by Sandi Spisso Connelly, Class of 1969. She explained, "The man you are talking about is Nunzio DeFillipo. Nunzio lived on South Plainfield Ave. He had a stable there where he kept his horse and boarded three others. In the 60's a fire killed all the horses, including his own." Life was less complicated then. A lot of the memories on the South Plainfield Classmates message board involve enjoying simple things that today would require waivers, permission slips and insurance forms. Sandi added another such memory involving the vegetable man. "I remember Nunzio giving us rides on the wagon, long, long ago when par-ents weren't 'sue' happy and everything didn't revolve around insurance. I also remember a fire truck that had two benches in the back. They would come down the streets and give the kids rides." Jim and his wife Barbara live in Orlando, Fla. Sandi is a South Plainfield resident and on the Planning Committee for the Golden 50th Birthday Reunion. The May 2001 event is a multi-class reunion open to all SPHS grads regardless of when they graduated. For more information on the upcoming reunion, see article on the events page.



Democratic council candidates Raymond Petronko and Bob Cusick promise an issue oriented campaign for South Plainfield Borough Council this year. Councilperson Petronko said, "Bob Cusick and I chose our campaign slogan carefully. 'Keep a Good Thing Going' shows our approach to South Plainfield. We

are proud of the Democratic ning mates' sentiments saying, record of accomplishment over the last six years, but we have no intention of resting on our laurels. Bob Cusick and I are committed to continuing to work as hard as we can to keep South Plainfield the best community in Middlesex County.3

Bob Cusick echoed his run-



"I'm honored to run with Councilperson Ray Petronko. Everybody knows Ray is a very intelligent, motivated, high-energy person, who is as responsible as anyone for what is taking place in our borough. More good things are happening this year in South Plainfield than in the last 20 years put together. Just think about it. Within a few months, the PAL will double in size, our seniors will have a state-of-the-art 10,000 square recreation center and there will fi-

## llemorie

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nally be senior housing for our residents."

Ray Petronko summed up the Democrats' position saying, "We are not finished yet. We want to continue to upgrade our parks, preserve open space, protect our environment, continue our road reconstruction program, while keeping taxes and spending under control. Between now and election day, we will set forth, in detail, our proposals for South Plainfield's future. We want our residents to know what we want to do and we also want to know what are residents want done." Bob Cusick concluded, "Ray

and I are already walking door to door. We want to know what you think needs to be done to keep South Plainfield the best town in Middlesex County. We look forward to talking to you and more importantly, listening to you. That's what America is all about."

fond memories of the people, events or places that have changed or no longer exist.

Recently, a former SP resident was browsing the SPHS message board at classmates.com. The thread that caught his eye was one that requested memories of our town from their younger days. These often humorous slices of the past offer younger people a glimpse of life in South Plainfield long ago.

The 1944 photo (above) of the firemen and firehouse was provided by James Eskesen, a 1960 SPHS graduate who lived on Lake View Ave. before the overpass was built. He recalls, "My house was one of those taken down for 'progress.' "

He has a lot of wonderful memories from his youth. One was of nicknames for different parts of town-two that stand out are Castle Gardens and Frog Town. He wonders if anyone

# LABOR DAY PARADE BRINGS OUT







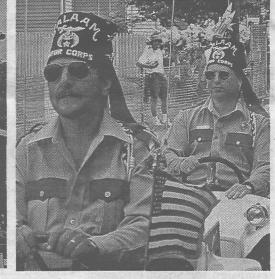
























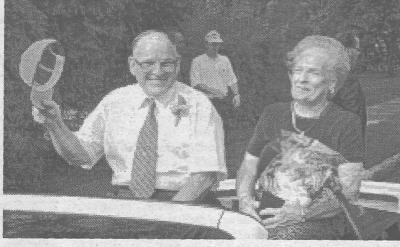
## **PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE**

Please take time to say thaks to the following people who were responsible for the success of this years parade. Everyone on the committee was a volunteer. Thanks again, great job!

John Sorrentino, Co-chairperson Don Alexa, Co-chairperson Darlene Pinto, Concessions & Participation Marion Gallagher, Concession & Participation Pat Vargo, Concessions & Participation Debra Krawiec, Fireworks Mike English, Recreation Department Activities Joe Scrudato Linda Zushma Ray Petronko, Council Liaison

Also working hard on the parade were members of the police department, rescue squad, fire department, R.A.C.E. radio operators, Office of Emergency Management and the public works employees. South Plainfield Observer

# THE BEST OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

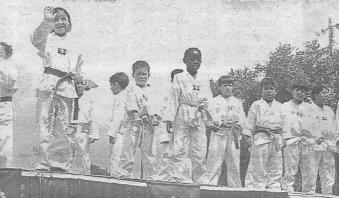
















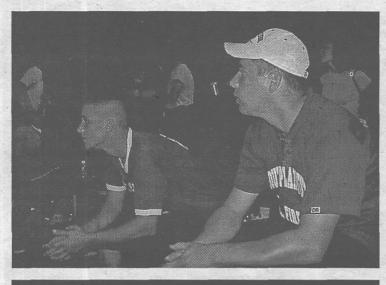








# Sports



•8•





## SP Police and Fire Departments Battle for Bragging Rights

## **By Patricia Abbott**

The annual softball game between the Police the Fire Deptment was held on a muggy evening the night before Labor Day. The park was full of family, friends and mosquitos. The 1999 victors, the Fire Dept. started out strong. The Police Department was confident they would capture the title Numerous runs from both sides began to cross homeplate. The score was closecould the fire department take the heat? Fire Dept. fans whispered how the new younger police recruits were giving the opposition an edge. Police fans old and young cheered on the boys in blue (and white and dirt and ... ) The mosquitos had no preference and dined on everyone. The Observer asked members of the Rescue Squad, who were standing behind the fence near home plate, "Who are you rooting for, the police or the fire dept.?" The question was quickly evaded with a grin and silence. The policemen won the charity game with the final score of 32 to 24. The friendly rivalry continues as the fire department vows to win next year's game!

## SP Tigers "Drop" Season Opener 32-6

## **By Brian Cochrane**

The South Plainfield Tiger football team opened it's season at home with a rare Saturday afternoon tilt against visiting Rahway.

The heat was a factor right from the start as the Tigers won the toss and got the ball first, starting at their own 38 yard line and proceeded to mount a drive that resulted in negative yardage.

Rahway fared no better on their opening drive, racking up 20 yards in penalties, while managing just one first down. The teams tried to get a feel for one another being since this was their first match-up in quite some time. It looked like South Plainfield

would punch it in first when Rahway running back LaVarr

Parker fumbled at the Tiger 27 yard line. Sophomore Eric Forde then ran off tackle for ten yards down to the 13. A Tiger penalty followed by a Rahway interception at the ten would end that series and the Tigers taste of the end zone would not return until the fourth quarter. In between the trio of Rahway running backs pounded the Tigers line and took a 12-0 lead into the half.

In the second half, Rahway racked up 20 unanswered points thanks in large part to four key Tiger turnovers, including a dropped kickoff to start the half and a muffed punt later on. South Plainfield avoided the shutout with 5 minutes to go in the game as senior quarterback Jason Bataille hooked up with sophomore wideout Jamaal McClintock on a 23 yard passing touchdown to finish out the scoring. Scott Gundersen, John Foscolo and Jon Fredricks led the defensive charge by tallying 50% of the tackles on what was a hot and steamy day at Frank Jost Memorial Field. Next up.....Thursday the 14th at home vs. Colonia.

## **Opening Day** for SP Soccer Club

The South Plainfield Soccer Club will open their season this Sunday, Sept. 17, with six home games and three away games. Riley field in South Plainfield will host three of the six games starting at 11:30 a.m. The first game scheduled at Riley will be Coach Pete Kelly and his U-14 boys the Galaxy, followed by Lightning, our U-13 boy's team, also coached by Pete Kelly.

Coach Pio Pennisi's U-11 boys, the Typhoons, will play at 3:30, as they make their transition from a small-sided field last year, to the full-sided field this year. Franklin School will host the U-9 boy's team Fire, run by Paul Baldasarre, with game time at 11:30 a.m. The remaining two home games will be played at the High School JV Field, starting with United U-12 boys, coached by Wally Bolivar at 11:30 a.m. and immediately following will be Jen Baldasarre's Comets, making their debut as our new U-11 girl's team. The three away games consist of Carlos Gonzalez's U-10 boys, the Blast vs. Bridgewater. Tom Hardy and his U-12 girls Blaze, will battle in East Brunswick and first time Tsunami's U-10 boys, coached by Mike Izzi, will play in Linden.

Schedules for each team have been posted on our web site as well as the schedule for the South Plainfield High School soccer program, which is fully supported by our club. We expect this season to be an exciting one and encourage all to come out and support our teams. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who helped make last season a success and look forward to an even better season this year. GO SOUTH PLAINFIELD! Visit our web site at www.soplfdsoccerclub.com. Submitted by Tom Hardy

#### 5:45-8:00 p.m. September 15 Junior Midget Cheerleading Flag Cheerleading September 16 9:45 a.m.-12:00 11:45 a.m.-2:00 Mitey Mites Cheerleading 1:45-4:00 p.m. Junior Pee Wee Cheerleading September 16 September 16 September 16 TEAM PICTURES—Pictures will be taken on Saturday morning at the PAL Building from 9-12. Tag Day will follow pictures. GAME- Home New Providence September 17 Monthly Meeting-September 21 at 8:00 p.m--All Parents encouraged to attend TAG DAY - RAIN OR SHINE - Football Midget Football 5:45-8:00 p.m. September 21 September 22 5:45-8:00 p.m. 9:45 a.m.-12:00 Junior Midget Football Flag Football September 23 Mitey Mites Football 11:45 a.m.-2:00 September 23 September 23 1:45-4:00 p.m. Junior Pee Wee Football NFL PUNT, PASS, KICK Competition—September 22 from 9:00 to 12:00 - Open to all children (boys and girls) ages 8 - 15 GAME- Home Montgomery September 24 October 1 GAME- Away Maplewood October 7 Competition Cheerleading -TBA October 8 GAME- Away Short Hills Eagles Night at SPHS October 13 7:00 p.m. Home Game GAME-Home Flemington October 15 Monthly Meeting-October 19 at 8:00 p.m.- All Parents are encouraged to attend October 22 GAME-Away Washington Rock October 29 GAME-Home Watchung Hills Details to be announced BONFIRE November 3 West Orange UNIFORM RETURNS November 5 **GAME-Away** November 10 6:00-8:00 pm ALL SQUADS UNIFORM RETURNS November 11 10:00-12:00 am ALL SQUADS November 11 Pizza Party and Trophy Night 5:00-8:00 pm at the PAL Monthly Meeting November 16 at 8:00 p.m. -All Parents are en-

**Pop Warner Football Schedule** 

TAG DAY - RAIN OR SHINE - Cheerleading

November 18-Parent's End of Year Banquet-Details to Follow

GAME TIMES:

couraged to attend

Mighty Mites - 11:00 a.m. Flag - 10:00 a.m. Jr. Pee Wee - 12:30 p.m. Jr. Midgets - 2:00 p.m. Midgets 3:30 p.m. Field house phone number is 753-6344.

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**September 15, 2000** 



# Many Compete in Annual 5K Race and 1.5 Mile Walk

The Labor Day festivities actually kicked off before the parade began with a 5K race sponsored by the South Plainfield Alliance For Substance Awareness and Ricochet Raquetball Club. Scores of runners and walkers started arriving in the park shortly after 7:30 a.m. to take part in a race that serves as a form of exercise and something the entire family could benefit from. A lucky few were fortunate enough to receive a massage from Dr. Patrick Aiello before and after the race. Dr. Aiello has volunteered his time for many years at the Labor Day Parade.

This year 193 runners, both young and old, from all parts of New Jersey, entered the race. Scores of walkers also took part in the Family Fitness Walk, including a few dogs.

Finishers in the top 20 were as follows: Stephen Lewicki, Mark Clifford, Ryan Tencza, Steve Steinbergher, Peter Buccino, Tim Morgan Jr., Mike DeSimone, Marc Hourican, Richie Gebauer, Vivek Kalola, Mike Loenser, James Grobens, Ken Vercammen, Joao Neves, Mark Sepkowski, Joe Dezmin, Joseph Lewicki, Ross Bucholc, Tomas Camayo and Jonathan Hall.

Youngest entries were Nicholas Izzo, age 9 and Heather Komaixo, age 8. The oldest entries were John Wall, age 68 and Joann Coffee, age 51.

The race was divided into seven categories for both male and females; 14 and under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-19, 40-49, 50-59, and 60 years and older. First, second and third place finishers in each of the categories for males and females are as follows:

14 and under
1-TR Stringer
2-Galen Johnson
3-Christopher King
1-Jessa Jones
2-Jennell King
3-Jennifer Komaixo

15-19 1-Tim Morgan 2-Mike DeSimone 3-Richie Gebauer 1-Danielle Schweers 2-Gina Nobile 3-Nicole Esposito

## 20-29

1-Ryan Tencza 2-Steve Steinbergher 3-Marc Hourican 1-Kiera Yhaly 2-Albania Alvarez 3-Meredith Cullen

30-39 1-Stephen Lewicki 2-Mark Clifford

30-39 cont. 3-Peter Buccino 1-Elaine Nestel 2-Michael Paul 3-Nina Hoffman

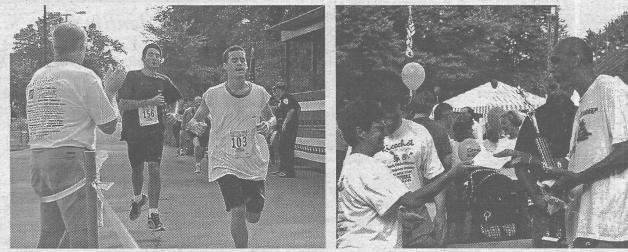
#### 40-49

1-James Grobens 2-Ken Vercammen 3-Ed Halper 1-Roseanne Russo 2-Lois Bucholc 3-Marianne Baumpane

#### 50-59

1-Mark Sepkowski 2-Cecil Vincent 3-Stan Chraminski 1-Joanne Coffee 2-Pauline Powell 3-Sandy Kaczka

60 and over 1-Sid Howard 2-Hemrique Matos **3-Humerto Torres** 

















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## South Plainfield Observer

#### September 15, 2000

## Obituaries

## Helen F. (Kruzia) Hurst

· 10 ·

Helen F. (Kruzia) Hurst, 80, died on Sunday, Sept. 10, in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in South Plainfield, Mrs. Hurst had been a lifelong resident. She had been an assembler for Matel in South Plainfield during the late 1960's and early 1970's, as well as a homemaker for her family most of her life.

Mrs. Hurst was a former member of the South Plainfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6753 Woman's Auxiliary and a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield

She is predeceased by her husband, Walter D. Hurst, who died in 1995 and a daughter, Joan Carol Hurst, who died in 1943.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Henry McDevitt of Springfield; two sons, George and his wife Karen Hurst and Ronald Hurst, all of South Plainfield; a brother, Frank Kruzla of Spotswood; four grandchildren, Siobhan McDevitt and Robert, Christopher and Brian Hurst.

Also surviving are four great grandchildren, Randy, Matt, Danielle and Brandon.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## **Emily Kovacsy, 50**

Emily Kovacsy died on Saturday, Sept. 2, in her home.

Born in Jersey City, she had resided in Bayonne for nine years before moving to South Plainfield in 1978.

Mrs. Kovacsy was a graduate of Jersey City University in 1978, receiving her Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education. She was employed by the New Brunswick Board of Education as a E.S.L. (English as a Second Language) teacher for the past 10 years. Pre-

#### viously she had been a pre-school teacher in Middlesex Boro.

She was a member of the South Plainfield Junior Woman's Club, where she had served as the club's president.

Her father, Frank Matousek, has predeceased her.

Surviving are her husband, Quentin R. Kovacsy; two daughters, Michele and Mindy Kovacsy, both at home; a son, Quentin David Kovacsy at home; her mother, Bertha Matousek of Bayonne; three sisters, Frances Micallef of Hamilton Twp., Margaret Matousek and Eileen Brow, both of Bayonne; two brothers, Joseph Matousek of Bayonne and Marty Matousek of Union.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Memorial contributions in her memory may be made to the Atlantic Hospice & Supportive Care, c/o Overlook Hospital Summit, N.J.

## **Dolores Sosa-**Rodrigues, 68

Dolores Sosa-Rodrigues died on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston.

Born in Puerto Rico; Mrs. Rodrigues came to the United States in her late teens. She resided in the Bronx for many years before settling in South Plainfield four years ago.

She was employed as an assembler for the former Cardwood Products of the Bronx before she retired in the early 1980's. She was a communicant of St. Mary's RC Church in Plainfield.

She is survived by her husband, Rufo I. Ortiz; his daughter, Evelyn Morilla of South Plainfield; a brother, Louis Collado of Ozone Park, Queens and her two grandchildren, Socrates Morilla and Marie Collado.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

a survey in the mail asking the taxpayers opinion concerning renovations to the other schools. People who have children who attend the other schools felt left out, paying extra taxes for just a Roosevelt School. So now we have all the schools down for renovation or new construction on the

Take Cedarcroft School and move to South Plainfield for a fine educational stops, we will have more empty buildings. We can always sell them or make administrative space out of them!

You can never have enough administrative space in South Plainfield for our fine Board of Ed.

What I thought was also funny a few weeks ago, the superintendent remarked about his career and how the town of Irvington

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by William Taber

requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of an 15' x 31'

inground pool. Proposed pool lacks the required 30' front setback from Clifford Street, 5' being

proposed; and any other such variances that may

The maps and documents pertaining to this

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

1T Sept. 15, 2000

took over the Board of Education. Instead of using elected members, it was cheaper and the members worked closer with elected officials. The smoke screening stopped.

They are not related, and the building (right) has been renovated since the photo was

taken. Give us a call, 908-668-0010-see how well you know South Plainfield history.

That is what South Plainfield needs to do! Have all board members picked by the mayor and council. Then they could work together on plans for new construction of homes and the flux of people thought to be moving in.

Maybe more wet lands will be found and we will have no more building!

So, before they go building a new school, I think they should take advantage of what they have. I attended Cedarcroft School before going to a private high school and it was a fine building, which should be used again and also the old high school should be used more efficiently. Remember, children are leaving school each year and the numbers from the state do not match what the Board came up with.

We should also look into having the borough taking over the Board of Ed-no more elected members-which is a contest on who likes the teachers more and who could do more for them.

Now that the teachers have a new contract maybe they will show up at this year's graduation and treat students with the respect that they deserve. The Class of 2000 was short-changed!

Senior citizens, residents without school age children and families who send their children to private schools should not be penalized with higher taxes. If it was to purchase new road equipment or maybe two street sweepers, so our streets could get swept once a week, instead of every six months by 'Rent a Broom,' then I would be the first to vote yes for it! But to waste money on construction and renovations which are not necessary-I hope all the good people come out in more numbers this time and vote NO!

I'm sure by spring a new election will surface. Also there is quick sand in South Plainfield for those who don't know about it, so when houses start disappearing don't get alarmed.

**TONY PISANIELLO** 

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LAND

At a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, held on August 17, 2000, I was directed to advertise the fact that the Mayor and Council will meet in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on Monday, September 18, 2000 at 8:00 PM to expose and sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, according to terms of sale on file with the Borough Clerk, the property described below.

Take further notice that the Mayor and Council have, by resolution and pursuant to law, fixed the minimum price at which said property will be sold together with all other detail pertinent, said minimum price being as shown below, plus \$1,000.00 for costs of preparing deeds, all necessary appraisals, advertising this sale and title search

Take further notice that at set sale or any date or place to which it may be adjourned, the Mayor and Council reserve the right in its discretion to reject any or all bids and to sell said property to such bidder as it may select, due regard being given to terms and manner of payment in case one or more minimum bids shall be received.

Take further notice that in each instance where necessary, I have been authorized to notify al contiguous property owners as required by NJSA 40A:12-13.2.

Upon acceptance of the minimum bid or bid above minimum, by the Council and the payment thereof by the purchaser according to the manner of purchase in accordance with terms of sale on file, the Borough will deliver a Bargain and Sale Deed for said premises.

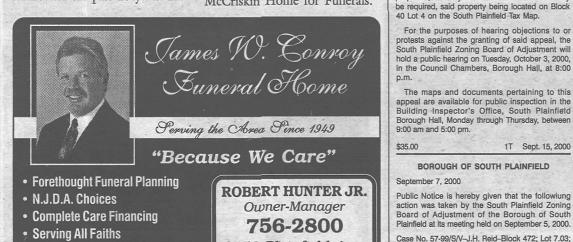
Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield as presently constituted without representations as to the use to which said property can be put. In the event that the purchaser is unable to

close title within ninety (90) days of the date of the sale, they shall forward to the Borough of South Plainfield a check representing the balance of the purchase price to be placed in the general fund of the Borough.

In the general rund of the Borougn. In the event that the purchaser fails or refuses to close title and/or pay the consideration therefore within the ninety (90) day period, then in that event, the Borough of South Plainfield, may, by resolution of the Mayor and Council, declare the transaction null and void and the purchasers' deposit shall be retained by the Borough of South Plainfield as liquidated damages.

At the time of acceptance of the successful bid, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price plus \$1,000.00 shall be paid by the purchaser representing the cost of appraisal, legal fees, advertising and associated costs incurred by the Borough. The purchaser shall make prompt application for any required approvals, including but not limited to subdivision approval, on-site and off-site improvements as required by appropriate Borough Boards, Agencies and Officers, and all costs shall be paid by the purchaser. In the event said approvals are not received within ninety (90) days of the date of sale, the purchaser shall forward the balance of the purchase price in conformance with paragraph five (5) above.

It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that Planning Board or Board of Adjustment review, then in that event, the purchaser will make all required improvements as determined by the Borough Engineer. The necessary performance guarantees shall be posted for same prior to the issuance of and building permits. Purchaser recognizes that the sale is subject to development standards to be set by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and/ or the Borough Engineer in addition to the Middlesex County Planning Board if applicable. This sale is made without representation as to same and is subject to Purchaser will take any action required by the Borough Engineer and/or the Borough Environmental Officer to protect any designated wetlands or flood plane existing on the subject parcel. At set sale, or any date or place to which it may be adjourned, the Mayor and Council reserve the right, in its discretion to reject iny or all bids. Certain properties within the Borough of South Plainfield may be designated as contaminated sites by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Department of Environmental Protection. One such property is the "Cornell Dubiller" facility now known as the "Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Complex" located at the intersection of Hamilton Boulevard and New Market Avenue which has been designated as a Super Fund site. The purchaser acknowledges knowledge of such locations and the existence of ame will not be a basis for avoidance of buyer's obligations. 2T Sept. 8 & Sept. 15/2000 \$290.00





next election ballot. It will be multiple choice. This is fair, let everyone in town pay more taxes for unneeded construction. turn it back to the school it once was. If they start building new schools, when the mad rush to

Letters

Continued from page 2

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Pre Arrangement Specialists

## 2456 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield

## "Consult the Families We Serve"



variance, two bulk variances, preliminary and final site plan, with waivers, and conditions, was hereby GRANTED.

Case #32-00-Martin Levitt-Block 72; Lot 7; 1825 Selene Ave.-Applicant's request for lot coverage variance was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Case #25-00-Ken Buckley-Block 142; Lot 1; 101 Sussex Street-Applicant's request for a use variance to construct an oversized garage was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

#### Janice J. Muccilli, Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

1T Sept. 15, 2000

Compare

Consider the beauty, service care and maintenance at Hillside Cemetery, 1401 Woodland Avenue, Scotch Plains, a non-profit organization. 908.756.1729 Hillside Cemetery

www.hillsidecemetery.com

/s/Mary Blue, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Details of proposed land sale to be advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 8, 2000 and Friday, September 15, 2000, the sale of property known as:

## Minimum Bid - \$300,000,00 Block 188, P/O Lot 47 2481 Plainfield Avenue

all as more particularly described in metes and bounds descriptions on file with the Office of the Borough Clerk, said property being owned by the Borough of South Plainfield and not needed for public purpose or use, sale to be held on in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey and will be made subject to the following conditions

#### CONDITIONS OF SALE

#### PUBLIC AUCTION

Conveyance by the Borough of South Plainfield shall be by Bargain and Sale Deed, without covenants and without representations as to the marketability of title. In the event that the purchaser shall determine that title of the property in question shall not be good and marketable, any questions as to the marketability of title shall be submitted to the Borough Clerk's Office within forty-five (45) days of the date of sale. In the event said questions have not been raised within said forty-five (45) day period, then and in that event all questions relating to the marketability of title shall be deemed waived and this matter shall proceed to closing to title within ninety (90) of date of sale Easements, both of record and not of record.

Restrictions of record.

Rates -- 3 line minimum-\$11, \$1 ea. additional line.

## **HELP WANTED**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR HHS/** Building Subcode Official: The Borough of South Plainfield is currently accepting applications for a full-time Building Inspector HHS/Building Subcode Official. Applicants must have current Building HHS/Building Subcode licenses and posses a a valid NJ driver's license.

Send resume to South Plainfield Building Dept, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield NJ 07080 or Fax resume attention: John Pabst (908) 754-1179.

P/T DRIVER/HELPER FOR FLORist. Great job for mom or senior. 10:30-3:30 flexible. Call Georgeann at Mohn's, 561-2808.

P/T EXPERIENCED FLORAL DEsigner. Call Georgeann at Mohn's, 561-2808

**NEWLY CONFIGURED SCHOOL** needs caring adults to assist in bringing programs, dances, PTA/PTO experiences to sixth grade students. Parents, grandparents, guardians. All help gratefully accepted. Please apply to:

**HELP WANTED** Principal Robert Doggett, (908)754-

4620, ext 219 or Secretary Ann Schenck, ext. 224.

**FRANKLIN PARK/SOCIETY** 

YARD VAC, SEARS CRAFTSMAN, shreds and bags leaves. Excellent condition, \$175. (908) 757-5074.



4-wheel drive, 4.3 fuel injection, AM/ FM stereo, air cond., alarm, good cond. \$5,500. Call 908-756-2585. 1993 SUBARU WAGON. Good cond. AC, AM/FM stereo, 100K highway miles. 5-speed manual, \$4,100 or make offer. 732-786-1306

To place an ad call

908-668-0010

Tigers March to "Gladiator" Guard Lieutenants Jamie Glo-The South Plainfield High

SIU PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

C = R

ARCHING BAND

TH PLAINFIELD, N.J.

School Tigers Marching Band kicked off their fall season on Saturday, Sept. 9 by supporting their high school football team at their first home game against Rahway.

The 90 band members and color guard entertained audiences at half-time with their motivational performance of songs from the movie "Gladiator," featuring Intro and Battle, Slaves to Rome and Barbarian Horde and Finale.

This year the band is led by Drum Majors Allison Provaire and Alissa Gittens, Color Guard Captain Kristen Turner, Color wacki and Tiffany Boyle, Drum Captain Brian Publik and Student Director of Music Greg Ogonowski.

The Marching Tigers will perform in their first competition under the direction of Mark Tweed and Drill Instructor Joe Borghese on Saturday, Sept. 24 in Scotch Plains-Fanwood at 2 p.m. Come out and support this enthusiastic group of high school marchers and mark your calendars for the 19th Annual Marching Band Festival on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 1 p.m. at Frank R. Jost Field in South Plainfield. Submitted by Patricia Publik

## policereport

Local Longaberger Sales Associate Recognized at National Convention

The Longaberger Company recognized Dawn Rodriguez as a 200 VIP National Sales Award winner, at its annual convention held in Columbus, Ohio, for generating annual sales of more than \$35,000. Rodriguez, who now lives in Middlesex, recently lived in South Plainfield for 27 years.

She received an exclusive Longaberger VIP Basket and a small purse basket, as well as onstage recognition as one of 1,239 independent sales associates nationwide

achieving this level of sales.

The four day convention attracted more than 13,000 Longaberger independent associates from around the U.S. Attendees had the opportunity to network with other associates from around the nation, attend a full range of training sessions designed to assist sales associates in refining their booking, selling and sponsoring techniques and participate in the awards and recognition ceremonies.

· Police notified a Hamilton Blvd. resident that her vehicle had been involved in an accident on Rt. 22 in Union. The resident stated that she did not know her vehicle was missing and wanted to report it stolen. She had a spare set of keys in the glove compartment and the car had been unlocked. There was no sign of forced entry where the vehicle had been parked. Union P.D. stated that the driver, a black male wearing a light colored shirt, had exited the vehicle after the accident and ran from the scene. Police questioned the resident on the whereabouts of her boyfriend and what he was wearing.

 A Clinton Place resident reported the driver's side mirrors on her and her father's vehicles were smashed off while they were parked on Avon Ave. The victim reported seeing a dark blue vehicle pass by just after she heard glass breaking. A blunt object was used to smash the mirrors on the parked vehicles.

· A Wickford Road resident reported the window on the passenger side sliding door of her van was smashed out.

ceiling fan, lawn mower, text-

books, clothing (petite sizes),

costume jewelry, much more

Take Planfield to

Franklin to Pershing

 Unknown suspects entered the railroad car located at the end of Hamilton Blvd. in the center of town. Obscenities were spray painted throughout the train. Entry was gained through a rear door that had been damaged several weeks ago and never repaired. The door does not lock.

 An officer working an off-duty job arrested a Hancock St. resident on a Contempt of Court warrant (shoplifting)

· A Bell Place resident was arrested during a motor vehicle stop. She was stopped on a suspected warrant. She was charged with hindering apprehension by providing false information and for failure to keep right.

· A Cedarbrook Ave. resident reported a 12-inch scratch on the pas-

senger side door of his new vehicle. The scratch was made with a key or other sharp object.

16 & 17

**9AM-3PM** 

**NO EARLY BIRDS!** 

 Antwon J. Allen of Roselle Park reported the theft of his bike from the rear of Bennigans. The bike had been chained to a tree near the employee door. The lock had been cut. The custom-made bike is valued at \$2,000.

 An Oakmoore Ave. resident reported his car was vandalized while parked in his driveway. There were scratches on the trunk, passenger side and hood of the vehicle. The driver's side windshield was also cracked with a chip in the center. The victim had had a party the night before, and feels that a neighbor that he has had ongoing problems with for years may have been angry due to the party. The victim noted that the past problems have always been verbal and he did not wish to list the neighbor as a suspect at this time. Police attempted to speak to the neighbor but there was no answer.

#### **MUSIC LESSONS** CONTRACTORS PIANO LESSONS DRUM LESSONS **BUILDER & DEGREED PIANO GENERAL CONTRACTOR** Specializing in JAZZ, ROCK, To advertise TEACHER NI DCA LIC #019771

**Local Resident Earns Tropical Bahamas Vacation** 

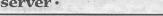
An expense-paid trip to Atlantis Resort on Paradise Island, Bahamas has been awarded to local resident Andrea Bowbliss. She is one of the nation's most successful independent consultants with PartyLite Gifts, Inc., the world's leading direct sales marketer of candles and candle accessories.

As part of the elite group of 1,918 consultants recognized for customers in the Tri-State area with expert decorating advice and assists with developing and training new consultants.



Raindate

9/23



· 11 ·

their success in building their individual business, Andrea was treated to a relaxing five-day, sundrenched vacation on beautiful Paradise Island, Bahamas.

While in the Bahamas, trip earners enjoyed fabulous accommodations at the renowned Atlantis Resort. One of the many highlights of the vacation was an elegant evening of celebration at the "Discover Atlantis" awards banquet. Here, top achievers in PartyLite were presented with awards, gifts and recognition for their outstanding achievements. The evening was topped off with a lively performance by one of the premier entertainment groups in the Caribbean.

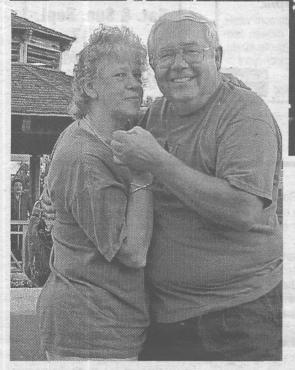
A resident of South Plainfield, Andrea began her career with PartyLite six years ago as an independent consultant. Managing a personal business, she provides

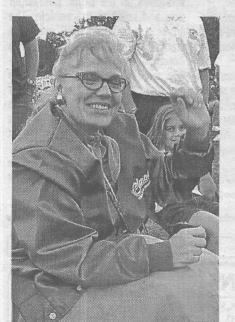


#### • 12 •

# Festivities in Spring Lake Park Wind Up Labor Day 2000







Evening entertainment at Spring Lake Park included music by the band "Sound Investment" preceded by a performance by the 'Class-The Girls Next Door.' The fireworks were a fitting end to a beautiful day and many in the audience thought this year's fireworks were the best ever.



... In South Plainfield!

## **Mosquito Spraying Planned**

#### Continued from page 1

particular pesticides or other ingredients in the formulations could experience temporary exacerbation of their conditions or other adverse reaction if directly exposed to even small amounts of this product. In addition, direct exposure to pyrethroids may result in mild skin and eye irritation.

The insecticide will be disbursed according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved label instructions by employees of the Middlesex County Mosquito Commission who possess certified pesticide applicator licenses issued by the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection, therefore any adverse effects are unlikely to occur. The insecticide will dissipate within 30 minutes of the application.

utes of the application. Middlesex County's Comprehensive Mosquito Control Program will continue to incorporate larviciding, adult mosquito surveillance, collection of dead crows, active surveillance with the local hospitals, testing of mosquito pools and sentinel chickens for the West Nile Virus, public awareness campaigns and distribution of educational materials.

Middlesex County residents are urged to continue eliminating areas of standing water around their homes:

 Drain water from pool covers.
 Change water in birdbaths once a week.

Put fish into ornamental pools.
 Make sure roof gutters are not clogged.

5. Empty flowerpots and containers that may hold water.

6. Maintain swimming pools.7. Eliminate standing water that

may be on your property.

8. Talk to neighbors about eliminating mosquito sites on their property.

Precautions that can be taken by Middlesex County residents to avoid getting bitten are:  Wear protective clothing, long pants, long-sleeved shirts and socks, if outdoors during the periods of peak mosquito activity, dawn and at dusk.
 Consider using a repellant it outdoors during periods of peak mosquito activity. Always follow the label

directions. 3. Make sure window and door screens are in good conditions to exclude the entrance of mosquitoes into your home.

Residents may contact the Middlesex County Mosquito Commission at (732) 549-0665 (daytime) for further information. You can also obtain more information on South Plainfield's web page at www.south plainfieldnj.com.

## Overturned Truck

Continued on deom page 1 the south side of town.

The Middlesex County Hazardous Materials Response team conducted an inspection of the contents of the trailer and reported no leakage of hazardous materials.

Emergency units responding included the South Plainfield Police and Fire Departments, the South Plainfield Rescue Squad and the South Plainfield Office of Emergency Management.

There were no injuries associated with this accident. The roadways were reopened at 9:45 a.m.

The crash is under investigation by South Plainfield Police Officer Daryl Strother. No summonses have been issued at this point. A preliminary investigation has revealed that the tractor trailer was attempting to make a left turn on Hamilton Blvd. at Durham Ave. when the load shifted, causing the rear trailer to turn over onto the guardrail.



**Observer!** 



South Plainfield Observer 908-668-0010	
ck or money or- /one year (out- 0) payable to: field Observer, ton Blvd., Suite Plainfield, NJ order your sub- via email at	
PHONE NUMBER	